

October 3, 2002

Commission Secretary  
Marlene H. Dortch  
445 12th Street SW, CY-B402,  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Proceeding 02-306

Dear Commissioners:

The Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group's mission is to bring business and government leaders together to address major public policy issues affecting the economic health and quality of life in Silicon Valley. We are proud to represent 190 of Silicon Valley's most respected employers who provide nearly 275,000 local jobs. It has recently come to our attention that the Federal Communications Commission is reviewing SBC Pacific Bell's application to enter the long distance market.

The SVMG has had a long-term relationship with SBC Pacific Bell - the company has been a good, solid corporate citizen and makes positive contributions to the state and to our local economic efforts. We are disappointed that the long distance entry process for SBC Pacific Bell has taken so long when other states have opened the door to long distance competition.

SBC Pacific Bell's long distance application has undergone numerous hearings, reviews, testing, and filings over the past four years. To date, 23 states have approved applications and received FCC approval - more than 141 million Americans are benefiting from increased telecommunications competition. Our members, and Californians as a whole, should be next.

In these tough economic times in California, it is essential that we encourage competition in the telecommunications industry. Regulators must do everything possible to create more jobs and to provide more opportunities for the state's businesses. The competitive nature of the telecommunications industry will pressure the current long distance carriers to lower their rates - exactly what has happened in other states.

It is now up to the FCC to ensure that California's long distance market is open and competitive. On behalf of the SVMG, I urge you to vote on SBC Pacific Bell's long distance application and let Californians reap the benefits that millions of Americans are already enjoying.

Sincerely,

Carl Guardino  
President & CEO  
Silicon Valley Manufacturing Group